Frequently Asked Questions MiCOURT

What is MiCOURT?

MiCOURT is a case management system for circuit, district and probate courts that uses the latest Microsoft technology, customized to Michigan's court processes. Built, centrally hosted and maintained by the Judicial Information Systems (JIS) division of the State Court Administrative Office, the goal of MiCOURT is to make sure that Michigan courts have access to a state-of-the-art case management system.

The MiCOURT application provides each court with record keeping, case-flow management, administrative reporting and financial management. Features of the current JIS applications for circuit, district, and probate courts, as well as many new features, combine to create MiCOURT.

Will MiCOURT do everything our current JIS system does?

The existing functionality of the current JIS systems will be included in MiCOURT. Some functions may be performed differently.
MiCOURT will provide additional functionality, including:

- Joint & Several Restitution
- Automation
    – Automatic Abstract Creation
    – Availability of Automatic Judge Assignments
    – Availability of Automatic Case Numbering
    – Previous Judge Assignments (Family Court)
    – Automated Non-Service Dismissals
- Visual Court/Resource Calendar
- Reports Preview
- Forms Preview
- Collections handled within MiCOURT

Why is MiCOURT better than commercial vendor products?

MiCOURT is a comprehensive case management system for all Michigan case types. It addresses the recommendation of the State Bar of Michigan's Judicial Crossroads Task Force that there be only one case management system in Michigan. *MiCOURT is the only single system capable of managing all case types and courts in the state.*

MiCOURT includes commonly used SCAO forms, many standard reports and SCAO required reports. MiCOURT user fees cover legislative and SCAO required changes and continuous product improvement. Part of the MiCOURT Experience includes the JIS team and support desk staff, which has more than 400 combined years of Michigan court experience.

What are specific differences between MiCOURT and commercial products?

Commercial case management products are not designed specifically for Michigan courts. As a result, "off-the-shelf" commercial products:

- Have no solution for Michigan for district courts, due to the specific and highly automated processing required for traffic tickets.
- Process juvenile cases like adult cases.
- Do not provide automatic reminders and delinquency notification for required probate filings.
- Require courts to pay for the development of state specific forms and reports.
- May not provide interfaces with state agencies and typically charge for enhancements to include such interfaces.
- Support desks lack staff familiar with Michigan case processing.

How will MiCOURT change our processes?

MiCOURT has more functionality than the current JIS systems, which your court may choose to implement. We will help you identify new or changed procedures so that your team will be prepared to go live on the new system. The MiCOURT Experience includes online learning through the JIS Learning Center. You will have sufficient time to practice using the product with your court's data.

How much will MiCOURT cost?

There will be no cost increase to upgrade your court to MiCOURT. You will pay the same fee for MiCOURT as your JIS case management system at the time of migration.

Is MiCOURT a Windows or Web-based system?

Both! Internal court users will use a Windows-based application to support keyboard shortcuts for high volume data entry and the integration with MS-Office and Adobe products. External users will access MiCOURT through a Web-based inquiry, which uses the local court's website and/or through the One Court of Justice website.

How will MiCOURT handle legislative or statute changes?

At no additional cost, JIS will continue to develop the specifications, work with software developers, and provide changes in an orderly software release program.

Can we configure MiCOURT specifically to our court's needs?

Yes. MiCOURT has many configurable components such as what case types are processed, automatic case numbering, automatic judge assignment, and many other settings and features that courts can configure to your preference.

Will we have access to all of our data in MiCOURT?
Yes. Through the MiCOURT application, courts may access their data through standardized exports and reports.

Will the public inquiry function allow users to see more than just my court's information?
If a court chooses to implement the MiCOURT Web Inquiry tool, then an internet user will be able to choose your Court from your county or court web site, and will be able to search on case and calendar information that is publicly available.

How will we connect to the application?
Currently, MiCOURT uses a secure Citrix client to allow user access. Access to MiCOURT will require a LGNET connection or a JIS secured JUDNET connection.

Our court uses custom programming updates on our JIS application. What are our options?
Your custom functionality may or may not be necessary in MiCOURT. You can contact our Business Development Consultant at jisrollout@courts.mi.gov to ask specific questions related to your customizations.

MiCOURT does not support custom programming.

Will the application support Judges' inquiries from other locations besides our main court?
MiCOURT provides a web inquiry function within the application. Anyone with an internet connection will be able to get to the public web inquiry function. For the secure web inquiry, a user will have to connect to LGNET for secure access. Counties can set up remote access, which provides users access to the county local network.

Who will set up new users after our implementation?
MiCOURT comes with a User Provisioning web application. Each court should plan on two power users who will have the rights to set up new user accounts. JIS will establish the user accounts for the initial implementation.